

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A chair-side multimedia communication system for use by dental staff and a patient in a dental chair comprising:

a display screen having at least one intraoral operatory light, the display screen suspended over the chair to provide light into the patient's mouth while allowing the dental staff to have access to the patient's mouth without interference from the display screen and to give the patient unobstructed viewing of the display screen;

an armrest controller electrically coupled to the display screen and associated with the dental chair;

directional speakers formed in a headrest on the chair, and coupled to the controller for providing sound in limited directions; and

software configured to provide access to a computer network and to enable patient navigation and dental staff access and management of information on the network.

2. (Currently Amended) A patient communication system, comprising:

a display screen having an intraoral operatory light mounted in relation to suspended over a patient chair such that the display screen and operatory light are visible from the chair to provide unobstructed viewing of the display screen by the patient and to provide light into the patient's mouth without interfering with access to the patient's mouth by the dental staff;

a controller associated with an armrest of the chair and configured to enable input commands by a patient through the controller to a computer associated with the display screen to provide patient access to a database; and

directional speakers located in a headrest associated with the patient chair, the directional speakers configured to provide sound in limited directions.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2 wherein the display screen comprises a flat panel touch screen.

4. (Original) The system of claim 3, further comprising a video camera mounted in association with the display screen and for providing real time imaging.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4, further comprising at least one additional controller remote from the armrest of the chair to enable a service provider to control the display screen.

6. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein the computer is configured to provide access to a webpage of the service provider via the Internet.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein the computer comprises a server coupled to the display screen and coupled to the controller in the armrest.

8. (Original) The system of claim 4 wherein the video camera comprises a digital video camera.

9. (Currently Amended) A patient communication system, comprising:
a patient chair having at least one armrest;
a display screen and intraoral operatory light ~~mounted-suspended over the patient chair to provide unobstructed viewing of the display screen by the patient and to illuminate the patient's mouth without interfering with access to the patient's mouth by dental staff;~~
a controller mounted on the at least one armrest of the chair, the controller configured to enable patient input through use of the patient's hand and fingers;
a computer system coupled to the display screen and the controller for providing access to the Internet; and

speakers located in a headrest associated with the chair, the speakers configured to provide sound directly to the patient when the patient is in the chair.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising a digital camera mounted in association with the display screen and coupled thereto for providing imaging of the patient in the dental chair.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, further comprising at least one additional controller remote from the armrest of the chair to enable a service provider to control the computer and digital camera.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the digital camera comprises a digital video camera to provide real time imaging.

13. (Original) The system of claim 11 wherein the computer is configured to provide access to a webpage of the service provider.

14. (Currently Amended) A communication system for a patient using a dental chair, comprising:

a chair having a headrest and at least one armrest;

means for providing a sufficient amount of light to illuminate the inside of a patient's mouth for performing a dental procedure when the patient is in the chair;

means for displaying electronic information ~~mounted integrally formed with the means for providing light, the displaying means suspended~~ in relation to the chair such that the display means and the light means are visible from the chair;

means for providing access to the Internet coupled to the display means;

means for controlling the Internet access means, the control means mounted on the armrest of the chair; and

means for providing sound, the sound providing means mounted in the headrest of the chair.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2, wherein the operatory light is capable of emitting a sufficient amount of light to illuminate the inside of a patient's mouth for performing a dental procedure when the patient is in the patient chair.

16. (Previously Presented) A patient communication system, comprising:
a display screen for displaying an image visible to a patient in a dental chair;
at least one operatory light mounted in relation to the dental chair such that the light provides intraoral light suitable for performing a dental procedure while the image is visible to the patient in the chair;

a controller in communication with the display screen, the controller configured to select the image displayed by the display screen; and

speakers located in a headrest associated with the dental chair.

17. (Previously Presented) The communication system of claim 16, wherein the speakers are capable of effectively directing sound to the patient in the dental chair while not significantly increasing ambient sound levels in an operatory area surrounding the dental chair.

18. (Previously Presented) The communication system of claim 16, further comprising software configured to provide access to a network such that the display screen selectively displays an image from the network.

19. (Previously Presented) The communication system of claim 18, wherein the image is an X-ray.